Security Work Group
http://www.nitc.state.ne.us/tp/workgroups/security/index.htm

Wednesday August 4, 2004, 1:30 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.
Nebraska State Office Building, Lower Level Conference Room C
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, Nebraska
Minutes

Participants

Ryan	Booton	Dept. of Banking
Mike	Carr	University of Nebraska
Steve	Cherep	Health and Human Services System
Cathy	Danahy	Secretary of State / Records Management
Scott	Dodge	Workers Compensation Court
Jon	Frank	Dept. of Economic Development
Rob	Gower	Dept of Natural Resources
Steve	Hartman	IMServices
Jerry	Hielen	IMServices
Audrey	Honeycutt	Dept. of Roads
Scott	McFall	State Patrol
Mark	Nelson	Health and Human Services
Leona	Roach	University of Nebraska
Linda	Salac	Health and Human Services System
Steve	Schafer	Nebraska CIO
Chris	Voss	Dept. of Economic Development
Dan	Ward	Division of Communications
Brad	Weakly	IMServices
Gary	Wieman	Legislative Council

A. Update on 2004 Vulnerability Scan and Agency Responses
Steve Schafer expressed appreciation for the excellent response from agencies in addressing high and medium potential vulnerabilities. Only one small agency has not submitted a formal report. Steve Schafer will follow up.

Steve asked for any suggestions regarding the 2004 vulnerability scan. Comments included:
   •   Why did the scan detect devices that do not exist in the agency, and
   •   Why did the scan not detect devices that are connected to the Internet, such as the agency's web server?
   •   The goal of the scan should include accurate detection of the host O/S.

Steve invited other suggestions via e-mail, and he will involve agencies in developing the scope and RFP for the next security assessment planned for spring 2005.

B. Layered Security.
Dan Ward and Brad Weakly reported on the reorganization of network support staff in DOC and IMServices. Starting this month, everyone working with wide area networks, local area networks and PCs will be in the same section within DOC. This

will allow the new group to provide comprehensive network services, including security, firewall, and VPN services – from the perimeter to the desktop. Other services include content management (URL filtering), virus protection, and general network security. The reorganization will also improve security by simplifying the physical configuration of the network and clarifying procedures and responsibilities. The steps to implement the new group include consolidating staff and moving equipment, including switches and some of the core network equipment. DOC will now have a comp

Working through reorganization issues has been the focus of everyone's efforts for the past couple of months, so DOC has not been able to work on some other security initiatives. Moving remaining agencies from separate 164 dot addresses to behind the state's firewall will be one of the first priorities for the new group.

C. Presentation by HHSS (Procedures for virus protection and patch management)
   Steve Cherep and Mark Nelson gave a demonstration of their system and procedures for pushing virus updates and security patches to every desktop. They use a product called SMS, but developed a program in-house to help them automate the process. It runs between 1 a.m. and 3 a.m. every night. Each morning, HHSS staff check to see what desktops were not updated and why. Several reports give them a range of management level and detailed information. In an emergency, HHSS can also send out updates at any time with 2 or 3 hours. HHSS servers are updated on a daily basis as required and can be updated anytime during the day or night within 2 hours. The HHSS network includes 5,500 PCs, 280 servers, and 114 locations statewide. Staff support for updates averages about 2 staff 3 hours per week.

   Currently, HHSS does include laptops in their update procedures. The current policy is to prohibit anyone from attaching a laptop to the network. In the future, they plan to allow either DSL or dial-up with an automated check for a current DAT file, before allowing the connection.

D. NITC Strategic Initiative – Security and Business Resumption
   Steve Schafer asked for comments and suggestions regarding the "Gap Analysis" for security and business resumption. This document will essentially serve as a strategic plan to guide the work of this group. It will be presented to the Technical Panel, State Government Council and NITC.

   Discussion identified several changes and additions, which will be incorporated into the next version. In addition, concern was expressed about the need for better communication on the status of some activities and how they would affect agencies. An example is what disaster recovery services will be available through the joint project that IMServices and the University of Nebraska is working on. Steve Schafer will add communication as one of the tasks to be accomplished in the Security Gap Analysis. This will also be a topic at a future meeting of the Security Work Group.

E. Discussion of topics for developing ground rules and minimum standards for network security (and inclusion in the strategic plan for security)
Below is a list of topics identified at the February meeting. Many of these will be incorporated into the Security Gap Analysis.
1. Network architecture (ability to isolate sections of the network)
2. Options for virus protection, patch management, and network management
3. Server protection
4. Desktop security
5. Central repository for security patches
6. Training and technical assistance on installing security patches
7. Workshops and education strategies

F. Update on Other Security Initiatives
1. Business Continuity Planning. Steve Schafer reported that a contract to prepare a business continuity plan is underway and includes the following phases:
    - Phase I: Project Initiation
    - Phase II: Disaster Readiness Assessment
    - Phase III: Vulnerability and Risk Analysis
    - Phase IV: Disaster Readiness Planning Phase
    - Phase V: Implementation Phase

    The consultant has gathered survey information and is conducting interviews, which is part of Phase II. The project is on track to be completed by late summer or early fall. Although the initial work focuses on DAS and the State Fire Marshal, the contract includes a fixed price for every agency based on the following algorithm: Base price of $17,300 per agency plus $2,600 for every 25 employees.

2. Directory Services. Steve Hartman of IMServices provided an update on the Nebraska Directory Services project. The portal is in place and 2-factor identification is also operational. The system also allows a web-based single sign-on. Agencies have the option of having administration delegated to the agency level.

G. Future Topics

H. Next Meeting Date – Wednesday September 15, 2004 at10:00 A.M.